

National Transportation Safety Board

§ 821.62

(b) *Briefs and oral argument.* Unless otherwise authorized by the Board, all briefs in emergency cases shall be served via overnight delivery or facsimile confirmed by first-class mail. Within 5 days after the filing of the notice of appeal, the appellant shall file a brief with the Board and serve a copy on the other parties. Within 7 days after service of the appeal brief, a reply brief may be filed, with copies served (as provided above) on other parties. The briefs shall comply with the requirements of § 821.48 (b) through (g). Appeals may be dismissed by the Board on its own initiative or on motion of a party, notably in cases where a party fails to perfect the notice of appeal by filing a timely brief. When a request for oral argument is granted, the Board will give notice of such argument.

(c) *Issues on appeal.* The provisions of § 821.49 shall apply to issues on appeal. However, the Board may upon its own initiative raise any issue, the resolution of which it deems important to a proper disposition of the proceeding. If necessary or appropriate, the parties shall be afforded a reasonable opportunity to comment.

(d) *Petitions for reconsideration, rehearing, reargument, or modification of order.* The only petitions for reconsideration, rehearing, reargument, or modification of an order which the Board will entertain are petitions based on the ground that new matter has been discovered. Such petitions must set forth the following:

- (1) The new matter;
- (2) Affidavits of prospective witnesses, authenticated documents, or both, or an explanation of why such substantiation is unavailable; and
- (3) A statement that such new matter could not have been discovered by the exercise of due diligence prior to the date the case was submitted to the Board.

Subpart J—Ex Parte Communications

AUTHORITY: Sec. 4, Government in the Sunshine Act, Pub. L. 94-409, amending 5 U.S.C. 556(d) and 5 U.S.C. 557; Title VI, Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as amended, 49 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.; Independent Safety Board Act of

1974, Pub. L. 93-633, 88 Stat. 2166 (49 U.S.C. 1901 et seq.).

SOURCE: 42 FR 21613, Apr. 28, 1977, unless otherwise noted.

§ 821.60 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

Board decisional employee means a Board Member, administrative law judge, or other employee who is or who may reasonably be expected to be involved in the decisional process of the proceeding;

Ex parte communication means an oral or written communication not on the public record with respect to which reasonable prior notice to all parties is not given, but it shall not include requests for status reports on any matter or proceeding covered by this part.

§ 821.61 Prohibited ex parte communications.

(a) The prohibitions of this section shall apply from the time a proceeding is noticed for hearing unless the person responsible for the communication has knowledge that it will be noticed, in which case the prohibitions shall apply at the time of the acquisition of such knowledge.

(b) Except to the extent required for the disposition of ex parte matters as authorized by law:

(1) No interested person outside the Board shall make or knowingly cause to be made to any Board employee an ex parte communication relevant to the merits of the proceeding;

(2) No Board employee shall make or knowingly cause to be made to any interested person outside the Board an ex parte communication relevant to the merits of the proceeding.

Ex parte communications regarding solely matters of board procedure or practice are not prohibited by this section.

§ 821.62 Procedures for handling ex parte communication.

A Board employee who receives or who makes or knowingly causes to be made a communication prohibited by § 821.61 shall place on the public record of the proceeding:

- (a) All such written communications;
- (b) Memoranda stating the substance of all such oral communications; and